

Grants will help organizations provide health care and information to underserved citizens in south Louisiana

June 25, 2007

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Charlie Melancon announced today that Bayou Land Families Helping Families in Thibodaux and Teche Action Clinic in Franklin will receive a combined \$676,345 in grants from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) through the Health Resources and Services Administration.

"Making health care affordable and accessible to all Louisianians is a challenge that we are still trying to meet," said Rep. Melancon. **"The dedicated and compassionate people at organizations like the Teche Action Clinic and Bayou Lands are working hard to meet these challenges in our hometowns. They do an exceptional job serving people in south Louisiana, and I am pleased their efforts are being recognized and supported with these federal grants."**

• **\$580,645 for the Teche Action Clinic in Franklin.** The Teche Action Board was awarded this grant to expand services at their clinic in Franklin. The Teche Action Clinic provides primary care treatment to people within the community regardless of their ability to pay. This award will allow the clinic to hire additional physicians and clinical staff. This new personnel will give the clinic the capability to treat 2,700 more patients each year.

• **\$95,700 for Bayou Land Families Helping Families in Thibodaux.** Bayou Land Families Helping Families serves families in Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, and Terrebonne Parishes by providing them with health care information. This federal grant will further support their outreach and general health care information distribution efforts in south Louisiana. They will reach out to families, hold health fairs, and provide workshops such as one entitled "How can I help my Family." These programs will provide much needed information about health and the health care system to the general public.

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